

**Appl. No.** : 10/051,454  
**Filed** : January 18, 2002

**I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listing of the claims in the application.

**Please cancel Claims 1-29.**

**Claims 30-43 were previously cancelled.**

**Please cancel Claims 44-64.**

**Please add the following new claims:**

65. (New) A mounting assembly for a basketball goal assembly, the mounting assembly comprising:

a support member;

a base plate connected to a lower portion of the support member, the base plate including an upper surface, a lower surface, a front portion, a rear portion, a first pair of openings disposed proximate the front portion of the base plate and a second pair of openings disposed proximate the rear portion of the base plate;

a template including an upper surface, a lower surface, a front portion, a rear portion, a first pair of openings disposed proximate the front portion of the template and a second pair of openings disposed proximate the rear portion of the template;

a first pair of retaining members extending through the first pair of openings in the base plate and the first pair of openings in the template;

a second pair of retaining members extending through the second pair of openings in the base plate and the second pair of openings in the template; and

an intermediate support member including a first portion disposed between the base plate and the template, the intermediate support member including a second portion

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inserted through an opening in the template, the intermediate support member being adjustable to abut the lower surface of the base plate.

66. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 65, wherein the first pair of openings in the base plate are separated by a distance that is less than a distance separating the second pair of openings in the base plate.

67. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 65, wherein the support member is disposed towards the first pair of openings in the base plate.

68. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 65, wherein the intermediate support member is disposed between the first pair of openings in the template.

69. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 65, wherein an upper surface of the first portion of the intermediate support member abuts the lower surface of the base plate.

70. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 65, wherein the first set of openings in the base plate are elongated slots.

71. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 65, further comprising a first set of nuts connected to the first pair of retaining members and disposed between the base plate and the template; and further comprising a second set of nuts connected to the second pair of retaining members and disposed between the base plate and the template.

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72. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 65, wherein the intermediate support member comprises a bolt and a nut coupler.

73. (New) A mounting assembly for a basketball goal assembly, the mounting assembly comprising:

- a base plate including an upper surface, a lower surface, a front portion and a rear portion;

- a first pair of openings disposed proximate the front portion of the base plate, the first pair of openings being separated by a distance;

- a second pair of openings disposed proximate the rear portion of the base plate, the second pair of openings being separated by a distance, the distance between the first pair of openings in the base plate being smaller than the distance between the second pair of openings in the base plate;

- a support member connected to the base plate, the support member being disposed towards the front portion of the base plate and away from the rear portion of the base plate;

- a template including an upper surface, a lower surface, a front portion and a rear portion;

- a first pair of openings disposed proximate the front portion of the template, the first pair of openings being separated by a distance;

- a second pair of openings disposed proximate the rear portion of the template, the second pair of openings being separated by a distance, the distance between the first pair

of openings in the template being smaller than the distance between the second pair of openings in the template;

a first pair of retaining members extending through the first pair of openings in the base plate and the first pair of openings in the template; and

a second pair of retaining members extending through the second pair of openings in the base plate and the second pair of openings in the template.

74. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 73, further comprising an intermediate support member including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion being disposed between the base plate and the template, the second portion being inserted through an opening in the template, the intermediate support member being adjustable to abut the lower surface of the base plate.

75. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 73, wherein the intermediate support member is disposed between the first pair of openings in the template.

76. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 73, wherein an upper surface of the first portion of the intermediate support member abuts the lower surface of the base plate.

77. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 73, wherein the first set of openings in the base plate are elongated slots.

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78. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 73, further comprising a first set of nuts connected to the first pair of retaining members and disposed between the base plate and the template; and further comprising a second set of nuts connected to the second pair of retaining members and disposed between the base plate and the template.

79. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 73, wherein the intermediate support member comprises a bolt and a nut coupler.

80. A mounting assembly for a basketball goal, the mounting assembly comprising:  
a retaining assembly including a first pair of retaining members and a second pair of retaining members;

a template including a first pair of openings disposed towards a front portion of the template and a second pair of openings disposed towards a rear portion of the template, the first pair of retaining members being disposed within the first pair of openings in the template and the second pair of retaining members being disposed within the second pair of openings in the template;

a base plate including a first pair of openings disposed towards a front portion of the base plate and a second pair of openings disposed towards a rear portion of the base plate, the first pair of retaining members being disposed within the first pair of openings in the base plate and the second pair of retaining members being disposed within the second pair of openings in the base plate;

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an intermediate support member including a first portion and a second portion, the first portion being disposed between the template and the base plate, the second portion being disposed within an opening in the template; and  
a support member connected to the base plate.

81. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 80, wherein a distance separating the first set of openings in the base is smaller than a distance separating the second set of openings in the base.

82. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 80, wherein the support member is disposed towards the front portion of the base.

83. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 80, wherein the first set of openings in the base are elongated slots.

84. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 80, wherein the first set of openings in the base and the second set of openings in the base have a generally trapezoidal configuration.

85. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 80, wherein the intermediate support member is disposed between the first pair of openings in the template.

86. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 80, wherein an upper surface of the first portion of the intermediate support member abuts the lower surface of the base plate.

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87. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 80, further comprising a first set of nuts connected to the first pair of retaining members and disposed between the base plate and the template; and further comprising a second set of nuts connected to the second pair of retaining members and disposed between the base plate and the template.

88. (New) The mounting assembly as in Claim 80, wherein the intermediate support member comprises a bolt and a nut coupler.